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COVID-19 Resources

DHS

[www.dhs.iowa.gov/
COVID19](http://www.dhs.iowa.gov/COVID19)

HCCI

[www.idph.iowa.gov/hcci/
products](http://www.idph.iowa.gov/hcci/products)

CCR&R

[www.iowaccrr.org/
providers/links/
resources2020/](http://www.iowaccrr.org/providers/links/resources2020/)

CDC

[www.cdc.gov/
coronavirus/2019-ncov/
index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)

Call your Child Care Nurse Consultant (CCNC) if you have any questions about child health and safety, or any special training needs.

The Child Care Nurse Consultant Program is funded by:

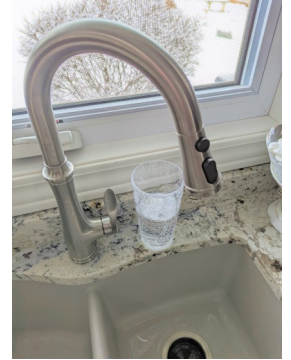


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Providing Safe and Healthy Drinking Water in ECE Environments

Access to healthy liquids and safe drinking water is important. Providing drinking water throughout the day (playing inside or outside) for children over six months of age is part of the Health & Safety Checklist for Early Care and Education Programs. Encouraging kids to drink water (instead of sugary juice or pop) and ensuring that water is available where and when kids need it can also help children stay healthy. 5-2-1-0 Healthy Choices Count! offers ideas and [posters](#) that encourage kids to drink water.



In addition to healthy drinking water, safe drinking water is essential for children. Lead in drinking water could be a concern and using state programs for testing drinking water is one solution. The Iowa Department of Education has funding from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to help child care centers and public schools test drinking water for lead. Learn more and complete the application by visiting the [WIIN Lead Testing In School and Child Care Program Drinking Water Grant](#) at educateiowa.gov. Child care home providers may be able to participate in water testing through the University of Iowa's [Get the Lead Out of Iowa](#) program.

Lead poisoning has developmental and behavioral effects. Kids are more likely to become exposed to lead during their early childhood years as they explore their indoor and outdoor environments. In Iowa, children primarily come into contact with lead-based paint from older homes. Exposure happens by kids ingesting lead paint chips, putting lead dust or dirt in their mouths, or placing objects into their mouths from the home that have been exposed to lead.

The only way to know if a child has been exposed to lead is to have them tested. Iowa requires all children to have been tested for lead at least once before entering kindergarten. Buildings built before 1978 may contain lead from paint or other sources. Lead paint can be tested by certified lead professionals or lead-certified contractors. Home lead test kits are also available at most home supply stores. Resources to share with families on lead testing and childhood lead poisoning prevention can be found on the [Iowa Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention](#) website or by calling 800-972-2026.

To sign up to test your child care center drinking water for lead:

[WIIN Lead Testing in School and Child Care Program Drinking Water](#)